

Working to bring congestion relief and economic development that will translate to new jobs throughout Will County, Rep. Debbie Halvorson (IL-11) applauded the signing today of a memorandum of understanding and legislation passed in both the Illinois and Indiana state legislatures that affirm both states' commitments to the construction of the proposed Illiana Expressway.

"This region serves as a leading crossroads of our nation's transportation system, and the Illiana Expressway will bring both economic development and much-needed relief to the area's busy roadways," said Halvorson.

"Today is a very important step forward for a vital, job-creating project, and I'm looking forward to continuing the work at the Federal level to make the Illiana a reality."

Once built, the Illiana Expressway will connect I-55 from south of Joliet to I-65 near Lowell, Indiana. The new expressway will provide much needed roadway support for the busy corridor, which will serve to alleviate traffic congestion in one of America's fastest growing regions.

A major proponent of investment in transportation infrastructure, Halvorson has held several meetings to advocate for the development of the Illiana Expressway.

Last November, Halvorson called on Governor Quinn to support the project. Halvorson also invited U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood to the 11th District in March for a tour of the area, where she encouraged his support.

In addition to her work on the Illiana, Halvorson has fought to deliver over \$1.2 billion for high-speed rail development in Illinois, and helped to secure \$22 million for Normal, IL for a new transportation hub.